



CALPEEK

CALIFORNIA POLITICAL WEEK

P.O. BOX 1468, BEVERLY HILLS, CA 90213
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(310) 659-0205

VOL. XVI
No. 26

JULY 4, 1994

WILL O.J. SIMPSON CASE BE A MUCH NEEDED WIN FOR L.A. CO. DA?? OR A HIGH PROFILE SCREW UP??

Editor's note: This brief report focuses on the *politics of the murder case* being brought against O.J. Simpson by L.A. Co. DA Gil Garcetti. Here is our analysis...

...It's been just over two weeks since millions viewed that crazy freeway scene and later the surrender & arrest of Simpson by police June 17th. In the 15-17 days since that time, 3 elected officials have come under **political attack** for the way in which they have conducted themselves --- with this case and with the 1989 domestic violence case against Simpson for beating his wife, Nicole. The three are L.A. Co. DA Gil Garcetti, L.A. City Atty. Jim Hahn and L.A. Muni Court Judge Ronald Schoenberg. CALPEEK sources believe all 3 are in *political jeopardy*...

...Schoenberg first. He's the judge who gave Simpson a rather light sentence with no jail time in the 1989 case. Despite his pleas that he was following the recommendations made in court by the L.A. City Attorney's office, Schoenberg can't pass the blame to Hahn because he has the final word in what the sentence will be. Thus the San Fernando Valley/Northeast L.A. Chpt. of NOW is moving ahead with a recall against Schoenberg. But whether NOW has the clout or resources to pull this off remains to be seen...

...Hahn too may be in political hot water, not only because of the 1989 case, but also for the release of the 911 tape from last year, when Nicole Simpson again called police. You don't need a law degree to figure out the huge negative impact the release of the tape has had on Simpson's ability to get a fair trial. Hahn should have exercised better judgment, sources say...

...As for Garcetti, he's got big political problems. His interviews on national & local TV caused one critic to

say he is "a bigger TV/media hog than Ira Reiner," the former DA who never saw a camera he didn't like. Another source put it this way, "Garcetti was seduced by the dark side of the media." Seduced yes, and later *screwed by his own words*. In TV interviews, Garcetti sounded like the champion for tough domestic violence laws. But that impression was obliterated June 24th when State Sen. Lucy Killea (I-San Diego) said that just two days before the murders, she got a letter from Garcetti opposing SB 18x, a bill by Killea and State Sen. Robert Presley (D-Riverside) that would toughen the laws on domestic violence. Since this has come to light, SB 18x has been amended and Garcetti is now said to be in support. But the damage to Garcetti's credibility already has been done because the story got wide coverage in L.A. and elsewhere around Calif...

...Bottomline: Garcetti needs to win this case not only to restore confidence within his office, which has been shaken by a series of high profile defeats dating back to the days of Reiner, but to secure his own political future. A loss on this case would spell doom for Garcetti. More next week. Stay tuned...

S.O.S. ILLEGAL IMMIGRANT INITIATIVE QUALIFIES FOR NOVEMBER. OPPOSITION NOW ORGANIZING.

Editor's note: The so-called "Save Our State" initiative which bars illegals from receiving welfare benefits, health care (except for emergency treatment) and educational services, has qualified for the Nov. 8th ballot. The measure was co-authored by former INS Comm. Alan Nelson and former Southwest Reg. INS Director Hal Ezell. This measure promises to be one of the more explosive issues facing voters this Fall. Here is CALPEEK's brief update & analysis on the early efforts to organize an opposition campaign...

...News of SOS's qualification caused opponents to
{Continued Next Page}

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finally get off the dime and begin organizing. Led by Demo Assemblyman Richard Polanco, who chairs the Latino Legislative Caucus, a first meeting was held June 22nd in Sacto, where representatives of the CTA & CA Federation of Teachers, CA Medical Assn., CA Nurses Assn., SEIU, Children NOW, Health Access of CA, the CA School Boards Assn. and MALDEF formed a group called "NO on SOS," with Assemblywoman Martha Escutia as cmt. treasurer. News reports indicate the group got initial pledges of \$600,000...

...Sources say the anti-SOS group hopes to eventually raise a \$4 million war chest. Whether this is realistic is somewhat questionable, given *other political priorities*. For example, the health care industry may feel its top priority is the defeat of the tobacco initiative or the passage or defeat of the single-payer health care plan. And the powerful CTA may feel their top priority is the election of Delaine Eastin as Supt. of Public Inst. So funding, until it actually shows up, is questionable...

...On June 28th, developer/political activist Eli Broad organized a breakfast meeting in L.A. where about 30 business leaders were encouraged to join the battle against SOS. Broad's aim is to expand the original coalition to include mainstream Republicans and business executives. More next week. Stay tuned...

COUNTY SUPES RACES: 8 INCUMBENTS OUSTED.

Editor's note: CALPEEK didn't have space in our last issue to run this story about County Supervisor races in the June 7th primary. Better late than not at all...

...About 43 incumbent CA county supervisors decided not to seek reelection this year, and 8 who did seek reelection *were defeated*, including veteran Marin Co. Sup. Bob Roumiguere, who was defeated by 37-year-old attorney John Kress. Other defeated incumbents include Patricia Scofield of Colusa (by Nate McCoy); Glenn Smedley of Del Norte (by Clyde Eller); John Schreiber of Modoc (by Ben Zandstra); Kathleen Campana of Tuolumne (by Jesse Rountree); and George De Mars of Yolo (by Tom Stallard)...

...Bill Schultz & Robert Drake also were defeated and a third Nevada Co. Supe, Jim Weir, was forced into a runoff. All 3 incumbents in Kings Co. (Jim Edwards, Joe Bezerra and Nick Kinney) were forced into runoffs, as were both supes from El Dorado Co. (Wm. Center

& John Upton). There are several other incumbents who were forced into runoffs as well. One of the more interesting battles is between appointed Contra Costa Co. Sup. Mark DeSaulnier, a Wilson moderate, and Grace Ellis, a hardline conservative. From this brief glance, it would appear that there is much unrest in Northern Calif...

...Best known of the new Supes are State Sen. Marian Bergeson of Orange Co.; L.A. Councilman Zev Yaroslavsky of L.A. Co.; and San Jose Councilman Jim Beall of Santa Clara Co...

...**Runoffs to watch:** Wilma Chen vs. Craig Bettencourt (Alameda Co.); Steve Perez vs. Dick Rutan (Kern Co.); Jim Silva vs. Linda Moulton-Patterson (Orange Co.); Don Nottoli vs. Kay Albani (Sacto Co.); Peter Navarro vs. Ron Roberts and Bill Horn vs. Lee Thibadeau (all from San Diego Co.). In addition, there are runoffs for all 3 seats on the Bd. of Supes of Riverside Co. Stay tuned...

CARD CLUB MADNESS: HOLLYWOOD PARK OPENS.

Editor's note: Since 1992 there have been between 13-15 different local initiatives presented to voters regarding **card clubs**. With the exception of Measure E in the City of Inglewood in 1992, most all substantial proposals to allow poker/card clubs in Calif. have been rejected. Here is a brief update...

...By the time this issue of CALPEEK hits in Northern Calif., former NFL execs Don Klosterman and Eddie LeBaron will have opened up a multi-million dollar, 200-table card club at Hollywood Park --- more than 2 years after voters narrowly approved the deal. It has not been an easy path for Hollywood Park either, but the club is expected to bring \$4 million a year into the Inglewood City Treasury, plus provide 1,500 new jobs. Klosterman and LeBaron are reportedly paying Hollywood Park about \$3 million per month to run the club...

...With these kinds of figures it's a mystery as to why there have not been too many other cities or interest groups pushing for card clubs in this election year. A June 7th measure in the City of Lake Elsinore, Measure Q, to allow additional card rooms, was rejected 58% to 42%. But that's been the only thing on the ballot that CALPEEK has come across. However, sources

indicate there is some interest building in Irwindale, Pomona and maybe Pico Rivera. Nothing certain, just rumors...

...There is speculation that those who want to build new card clubs are waiting to see what happens with AB 2803 --- a bill that would allow corporate ownership of Calif. casinos. Read that as Caesars World, Circus Circus, Hilton, Ramada Inns and other corporations which own large Nevada and New Jersey casinos. The bill gives the Calif. AG major policing powers and sets up a casino commission, which one source says is not answerable to anyone. There's lots of money behind this bill and odds are good it will pass. And if it does, then there will be a major push to build and acquire card clubs in Calif. --- especially clubs tied into recreational/tourist type attractions. Stay tuned...

DOG DAYS OF SUMMER: POLITICAL SHORT TAKES.

Editor's note: Here are a few political items worth noting...

- **White House Shake-Up** - Demo sources in Calif. are thrilled that OMB Director Leon Panetta has been named to replace White House COS Thomas McLarty. The move to replace McLarty was long overdue and the selection of the former Monterey area congressman is very good news for Calif. Are there more shake-ups in the works? Sources say that Sec. of State Warren Christopher may be the next to go, with Treasury Sec. Lloyd Bentsen as a possible replacement. Sources say that's why White House communications adviser David Gergen was moved to the State Dept. --- to get ready for a change in command. And finally, there's a fair chance that DNC Chair David Wilhelm will be asked to go. He's a nice guy, but is way over his head. Just read the June 26th cover story in The New Republic by Weston Kosova. Wilhelm isn't in the same league as Chuck Manatt, Bob Strauss or Ron Brown. Who's got the inside track for the DNC job? Demos on Capitol Hill would love to see former CA Congressman Tony Coelho of Modesto --- despite the fact that he does carry some baggage...

- **The Hill PR Problem** - State Legislators are hoping that State Sen. Frank Hill (R-Whittier) will do the right thing and resign his seat very soon - before voters go on a rampage. Hill was convicted June 16th on political corruption charges. While constitutional

officers must resign when convicted of a felony, legislators can remain in office until they are sentenced. In Hill's case, sentencing is set for Sept. 12th. That's a long way off. If Hill were to resign by July 1st, Gov. Pete Wilson could call a special election to coincide with the regular Nov. 8th election. What's the hang-up in getting Hill out? Seems that many of his fellow senators, Demos & Republicans, like Hill and don't want to force him out. And some of these senators can't be threatened because they'll be out in 1996 because of *term limits* -- so they just don't give a damn about public pressure. FYI: When Hill does go, the likely contenders to run in the special are GOP Assemblymembers Paul Horcher (Diamond Bar) and Richard Mountjoy (Arcadia) and perhaps Diamond Bar Councilman Gary Miller...

- **Davis Leads Wright** - A poll commissioned by Demo LG candidate Gray Davis shows him leading his GOP rival, State Sen. Cathie Wright, by 23 points --- 50% to 27%. The poll was taken June 9-12 among 800 likely voters. The survey was done by Fairbank, Maslin, Maullin...

- **Woo vs. Reilly Slate Lawsuit** - Sources tell CALPEEK that the lawsuit filed by unsuccessful Demo SOS candidate Michael Woo is *technically still alive*, but Woo has done nothing since June 7th to amend the action or force the issue. Reilly's attorney, the very capable Joe Remcho, told CALPEEK he hopes the suit will just disappear. As you may recall, Woo paid consultant Clint Reilly \$90,000 to be on Reilly's state-wide primary slate. Woo had paid most of the amount requested, but was bounced off the slate and his money returned. That's when Woo filed suit. FYI: Woo's former campaign manager, Steve Glazer, has now been hired by Reilly to work on Kathleen Brown's campaign. Hummmm....

- **Long Beach Election Brouhaha** - On election night, Long Beach council candidate Tonia Reyes Uranga defeated Mike Donelon by just 7 votes. But the next day, during a recount, election officials claim to have discovered some "uncounted ballots." When those uncounted ballots were added to the other ballots, Donelon won by 1 vote. Uranga has hired campaign attorneys Strumwasser & Woocher. Neutral sources tell CALPEEK something doesn't smell right.

{Continued Next Page}

FYI: in the June 7th election, Long Beach voters had to ask for a separate city ballot after they finished with their regular ballot. Why didn't city officials just consolidate the election and have one ballot???

● **Running for L.A. City Council** - There's a growing list of wanna-be councilmembers looking very seriously at L.A. Co. Sup-elect Zev Yaroslavsky's soon to be vacant Westside 5th Council District seat. Leading the list of contenders is Zev's wife, Barbara, and former L.A. school board member Roberta Weintraub. These are the two best known potential contenders, but there are others as well including savvy Central City Assn. vp Carol Schatz, transportation consultant Ryan Snyder and Bet Tzedek exec. director Michael Feuer...

● **Bono Leads Clute in 44th C.D.** - Although there's still a long way to go, a new poll released by GOP House candidate Sonny Bono shows him leading former Demo Assemblyman Steve Clute of Riverside by a 48% to 31% margin, with 21% undecided. The survey by pollster Linda DiVall was taken June 16-18 among 400 likely voters. DiVall's survey also shows that Pres. Bill Clinton will be a drag on Demos in this area. Just 30% of those sampled in this Riverside CD say Clinton deserves reelection, while 58% want to dump him. Stay tuned...

SEN. LOCKYER TO ADDRESS L.A. PA OFFICERS.
State Senate President Bill Lockyer(D-Hayward) will address members of the L.A. Public Affairs Officers Assn. at 11:30 a.m., July 6, Hotel Inter-Continental, in downtown L.A. For info, call Karen Legier at ARCO (213)486-1931...

QUACKENBUSH TO ADDRESS CA LINCOLN CLUB.
GOP Assemblyman Chuck Quackenbush, who is the Republican nominee for Insurance Commissioner, will address members of the CA Lincoln Club (San Gabriel Valley chpt.) at the club's July 15 breakfast meeting, 7:30 a.m., Industry Hills Sheraton Hotel. For info & RSVPs, call Natalie Blanning at (818)249-4205...

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We still have about 50-60 copies left of CALPEEK's 1994 Directory of Campaign Consultants. They are for sale to subscribers and non-subscribers alike. Cost for CALPEEK subscribers is just \$10, while the cost to non-subscribers is \$40. The directory will be given away **FREE** with all **new** subscriptions. No invoicing, no credit cards - checks only. For info call (310)659-0205. This directory is sold via subscription only. No retail sales. Stay tuned...

NEW JOBS, ADDRESSES AND PERSONNEL NOTICES.

Editor's note: Here are some items to mark down in your notebook...

● Political media-buying agency Target Enterprises moves to a new office at 16501 Ventura Blvd., Ste. 515, Encino, CA 91436. New phone (818)905-0005..

● The Kamber Group(TKG) has announced that consultant Harvey Englander and his company, The Englander Group, is now a part of TKG. Englander becomes a Sr. VP with TKG and director of its West Coast operations. TKG is a DC-based pr/campaign management firm with second office in NYC...

● Solem & Associates moves to new offices at 550 Kearny St., Ste. 1010, San Francisco, CA 94108. Ne. phone (415)788-7788...

● Some major changes at the CA Demo Party. The new exec. director is Susan Henderson, who replaces Susan Kennedy. Although it's *not* a done deal, Kennedy is supposedly headed to the reelection campaign of U.S. Sen. Dianne Feinstein, where she will be deputy cmp. mgr. And finally, Steve Smith has taken a leave from his exec. director post with CSEA to become State director for the CDP's '94 CA Coordinated Campaign...

● A new address for Bear Republic Political Service 103 1/2 S. Guadalupe Avenue, Redondo Beach, CA 90277. New phone (310)374-4890...

● Gov. Pete Wilson's reelection team has hired 3 veteran political types to bolster the campaign. Best known are Larry Thomas and Marty Wilson, who become sr. counselors. Hired as deputy cmp. mgr. is Kathleen Shanahan...